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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/644,365	08/20/2003	Brent A. Holcombe	10030690-1	6401

7590 04/30/2004

AGILENT TECHNOLOGIES, INC.  
Legal Department, DL429  
Intellectual Property Administration  
P.O. Box 7599  
Loveland, CO 80537-0599

EXAMINER
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NGUYEN, JIMMY

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2829

DATE MAILED: 04/30/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No. 10/644,365	Applicant(s) HOLCOMBE ET AL.	
	Examiner Jimmy Nguyen	Art Unit 2829	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 August 2003.  
 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.  
 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.  
 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.  
 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.  
 7) ☒ Claim(s) 11-20 is/are objected to.  
 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  
 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 20 August 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  
 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
 a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:  
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1 – 7 and 9, 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Huang (US 6091253).

**As to claim 1**, Huang discloses a device (figure 2) comprising:

a housing (400, working plate) having a first side (upper side of housing 400) and an opposing second side (bottom side of housing 400), wherein the housing (400, working plate) comprises:

an opening (413) extending from the first side (bottom side of housing 400) to the second side (upper side of housing 400); and

multiple alignment pins (414, 211P2, the pins 211P2 is extending from the surface of electronic probe 200 into the guide holes 411 and to hole 11, therefore it is embedded in housing 400) imbedded in the housing (400, working plate), and extending external to both first (bottom side of housing 400) and second sides (upper side of housing 400), wherein on the first side (bottom side of housing 400) the alignment pins (414) are capable of insertion into matching holes (214) on an electronic probe (200), and wherein on the second side (upper side of housing 400) the alignment pins (211P2, the pins 211P2 is extending from the surface of electronic probe 200 into

the guide holes 411 and to hole 11, therefore it is embedded in housing 400) are capable of insertion into matching holes (11, fig 3A) on an electronic circuit assembly (10, fig 3A).

**As to claim 2**, Huang discloses (fig 2) a device as recited in claim 1, further comprising at least one fastener part (415, attaching holes) capable of attaching the electronic probe (200) to the housing (400).

**As to claims 3, 5**, Huang discloses (fig 2) a device as recited in claim 2, wherein the fastener part (415) comprises a threaded screw hole (415) into which a screw (500) attached to the electronic probe (200) can be inserted.

**As to claim 4**, Huang discloses (fig 2) a device as recited in claim 1, wherein the at least one fastener part (415) comprises two fastener parts (415).

**As to claim 6**, Huang discloses (fig 2) a device as recited in claim 1, wherein the axis of each alignment pin (414, 211P2) is parallel to the axis of the opening (413).

**As to claim 7**, Huang discloses (fig 2) a device as recited in claim 1, wherein on the second side (upper side of housing 400) the alignment pins (211P2, the pins 211P2 is extending from the surface of electronic probe 200 into the guide holes 411 and to hole 11, therefore it is embedded in housing 400) are capable of attachment to the

electronic circuit assembly (10, fig 3) following their insertion into the electronic circuit assembly (10) matching holes (11).

**As to claim 9**, Huang discloses (fig 3) a device as recited in claim 1, wherein the electronic circuit assembly (10, fig 3) is a printed circuit board (10).

**As to claim 10**, Huang discloses (fig 2) a device as recited in claim 1, wherein the multiple alignment pins (414, 211P2) comprise four alignment pins (414, 211P2).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Huang (US 6091253).

**As to claim 8**, Huang discloses (fig 3) all the limit combination of the claims 1 and 7 except for attaching of the alignment pins to the electronic circuit assembly is effected by soldering the alignment pins into the electronic circuit assembly matching holes.

However, it would have been obvious for Huang to attach the alignment pins (211P2) to the electronic circuit assembly (10) by soldering the alignment

pins (211P2) into the electronic assembly matching holes (11) for the benefit of firmly securing the electronic circuit (10) to the working plate (400) during the testing process.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

5. Claim 11 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The prior arts of record are silent on the combination of the limitation on claim 1 and further limit of a device comprising a first key, wherein when the first key is aligned with a matching geometry on the electronic probe, entry of the electronic probe into the opening is enabled, otherwise entry is prevented. In addition, a first key is able to prevent an unwanted electronic probe come to contact with a device under test, and therefore providing a precise tester.

6. Claims 12 – 20 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The prior arts of record are silent on the combination of the limitation on claim 1 and further limit of a device comprising a second key , wherein when the second key is aligned with a matching geometry on the electronic circuit assembly, attachment of the device to the electronic circuit assembly is enabled, otherwise such entry is prevented.

In addition, a second key provides a precise position on device under test for the electronic probe comes to contact, and therefore providing a precise positioning.

***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jimmy Nguyen at (703) 306-5858. Any inquiry of a general nature of relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4900.



JN.  
April 23, 2004